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**Professor of Religion**  
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## **Education**

Ph.D. University of Chicago, 2006  
M.A. University of Chicago, 1997  
B.A. Swarthmore College, with Honors, 1992

## **Professional Experience**

### *The University of Vermont,*

Professor of Religion, 2018 to present  
Associate Professor of Religion, 2012 to 2018.  
Assistant Professor of Religion, August 2006 to 2012.

Classes: “Religions in Asia,” “TAP: Religion and Violence,” “Religion and Globalization,”  
“Interpretation of Religion,” “Religion in China,” “Religion in Japan,” “Buddhist Traditions,”  
“Religion, Law and Discipline,” “Religion, Nation, State” “Religion and Secular Culture”

*Mahidol University*, Bangkok Thailand, International PhD Programme in Buddhist Studies,  
Visiting Research Professor, December 2013-June 2014.

*Institute of South East Asian Studies*, Singapore, Nalanda-Sriwijaya Centre  
Visiting Research Fellow, December 2009 to May 2010.

*Wat Chetuphon Buddhist Secondary School*, Chiang Mai, Thailand, ESL instructor, 1994.

*JET Program(me)*, *Hokkaido Board of Education*, Hokkaido, Japan, ESL Instructor.  
Asahikawa North High School; Asahikawa-City, 1993 to 1994; Soya Board of Education,  
Wakkanai-City, 1992 to 1993.

## **Research and Scholarship**

### **Books**

*Educating Monks: Minority Buddhism on China’s Southwest Border*. Honolulu: University of  
Hawai’i Press, 2017.

*Theravada Buddhism in Colonial Contexts* (editor). New York: Routledge, 2018.

*Buddhism and Religious Freedom: a sourcebook, theological and legal texts*. Author of  
introduction and Commentary. Berkeley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs,  
Georgetown University, November 2016.

### **Selected Journal Articles and Book Chapters**

“Bad Gifts, Community Standards and the Disciplining of Theravāda Monks,” *Journal of  
Contemporary Religion* special issue, “Ethics of Religious Giving in Asia.” Forthcoming 2019.  
“Political Disrobing in Thailand,” with Susan Darlington, Hampshire College. *Buddhism, Law  
and Society* 3 (2017/2018): 113-156.

- “Conscripts’ of Chinese Modernity? Transformations of Theravada Buddhism in Southwest China.” In *Theravada Buddhist Encounters with Modernity*, edited by Steven Collins and Juliane Schober. Routledge, 2018. Pp. 137-149.
- “The Sangha as an Institution,” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religion*, September, 2017.
- “History and Diversity of Religions,” in *On Human Nature: Biology, Psychology, Ethics, Politics and Religion*, edited by Michel Tivyarenc and Francisco Ayala. Elsevier, 2016. pp. 663-675.
- “On Being a Monk and a Citizen in Thailand and China.” In *Buddhism and the Political Process*, edited by Hiroko Kawanami. London: Palgrave MacMillan, 2016. Pp. 11-30.
- “The Buddha’s Precepts on Respecting Other Races and Religions? Thinking about the Relationship of Race/Ethnicity and Theravāda Buddhism.” *SOJOURN: Journal of Social Issues in Southeast Asia* 29: 3 (2014): pp. 591-626.
- “Monastic Labor: Thinking about the Work of Monks in Contemporary Theravada Communities.” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 79: 1 (March 2011): pp. 162-192.
- “Worry for the Dai Nation: Sipsongpanna, Chinese Modernity and the Problems of Buddhist Modernism.” *Journal of Asian Studies* 67: 1 (February, 2008): pp. 107-142.  
Cited as a “Top 10 most cited article;” April 3, 2011.  
[<https://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=JAS&tab=mostcited#tab>]
- “Buddhism, Politics and Nationalism in the Twentieth and Twenty-first Centuries.” *Religion Compass* 1: 5 (2007): pp. 529-546.

### **Recent Book Reviews**

- With Anne Hansen, “Travels through the Buddhist Ecumene: Commentary on *Architects of Buddhist Leisure*.” Justin Thomas McDaniel, *Architects of Buddhist Leisure* (University of Hawaii Press, 2016). *Heidelberg Ethnology*, Occasional Paper, no. 5 (2017): pp. 8-12.
- Thomas Jansen, Thoralf Klein and Christian Meyer, eds, *Globalization and the Making of Religious Modernity in China: Transnational Religions, Local Agents, and the Study of Religion, 1800-Present* (Leiden: Brill 2014). *Journal of Chinese Religions* 44, 1 (2016): 86-88.
- Justin McDaniel, *The Lovelorn Ghost and the Magical Monk: Practicing Buddhism in Modern Thailand* (Columbia UP, 2011). *History of Religions* 55, 3 (2016): 361-364.
- Pattana Kitiarsa, *Mediums, Monks and Amulets: Thai Popular Buddhism Today* (Silkworm Books, 2012), in *Sojourn: Journal of Social Issues in Southeast Asia* 29: 1 (2014).
- Jason Carbine, *Sons of the Buddha: Continuities and Ruptures in a Burmese Monastic Tradition* (Berlin/New York: DeGruyter, 2011), in *Journal of Contemporary Religion* 28: 3 (October 2013), 562-563.
- Anne Blackburn, *Locations of Buddhism: Colonialism and Modernity in Sri Lanka* (University of Chicago Press, 2010), in *Journal of Religion* 92: 2 (April, 2013), 313-315.

### **Selected Blog Posts**

- “Silencing the Monks,” *The Immanent Frame* <https://tif.ssrc.org/2019/03/21/silencing-the-monks/>, March 2019
- “Monks, Nuns and Sons,” posted to Religion@uvm, October 2015
- “Imperfect Refuge,” posted to *Tricycle* <http://www.tricycle.com/blog/imperfect-refuge>, May 2015
- “Monks, Politics and Anti-Politics,” posted to Religion@uvm, December 2014
- “A Good Gift from –not to– a Monk,” posted to Religion@uvm, October 2014
- “Bad Gifts,” posted to Religion@uvm, October 2014 (<http://blog.uvm.edu/religion/2014/10/05/bad-gifts/>)
- “Coups and Conversations,” posted to Religion@UVM, June 2014 (<http://blog.uvm.edu/religion/2014/06/>)

### ***Manuscripts under review or in progress***

- “Belt and Road Buddhists: Religion-Making and the Rebuilding of Minority Buddhism in the Reform Era,” under review for *Review of Religion and Chinese Society*.
- “Merit and Corruption: *Sangha* Economies in Contemporary Thailand,” under review for publication with volume on *Sangha Economies* at University of Hawai’i Press.
- “Nation-state and Monastic Identity,” *Oxford Handbook of Buddhist Practice*, edited by Paula Arai and Kevin Trainor. Work in progress, May 2019
- “Buddhist Monastic Education in Contemporary Asia,” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religion*. Work in progress, August 2019
- “Ethics of Religious Giving in Asia,” co-editor, special issue, under review at *Journal of Contemporary Religion*
- “Thai Monks, Free Speech and the Ability to Speak,” journal article, work in progress.
- “Discipline,” *Routledge Handbook of Theravada Buddhism*, edited by Stephen Berkwitz and Ashley Thompson. Work in progress August 2019

### ***Recent Public Lectures and Conference Presentations***

#### *International*

- “The Robes Make the Monk? On the Disciplining of Monks in Contemporary Thailand” Gatty Lecture in Southeast Asia, Cornell University, April 18, 2019.
- “Managing Monks in Modern Thai Buddhism,” to be presented at “Multiplicity of Asian Buddhist Modernities,” February 15-17, 2019, University of California-Berkeley.
- “Secularism, Legal Regimes and the Politics of Buddhism in Thailand,” Presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver, November 2018.
- “Bloody Amulets and Punitive Disrobing: Reflections on the Legal Environment for Thai Monks,” Full Professor Lecture, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Vermont, October 3, 2018.
- “Curricula and the Goals of Buddhist Education in Sipsongpanna, Thailand and Singapore,” International Buddhist Education Conference – Structuring a Bilingual Buddhist Curriculum, Bodhi Buddhist Academy, Santa Ana, CA, June 7-10, 2018.
- “Belt and Road Buddhists?: Minority Buddhism, Rebuilding Buddhist Institutions and Buddhist Diplomacy in the Early Twenty-First Century,” “Chinese Buddhism: From Holmes Welch to the Present,” Center on Religion and Chinese Society, Purdue University, April 28, 2018.
- “Of Numbers and Nations in the Religions of Asia,” Fleming Museum, University of Vermont, March, 2017.
- “Coarse or Free Speech? Considering the Rights of Thai Monks as Citizens in an Age of Protests,” University of Michigan, February 9, 2017.
- “Intra-Buddhist Charity, Transnational Monastic Education and Economies of Prestige,” Sangha Economies, Max Plank Institute, September 21-22, 2017, Halle, Germany.
- “Clashing Civilizations? Buddhist-Muslim Relations in Bangkok,” Sipsongpannā Buddhist Forum, Jing Hong, Yunnan Province, China. February 18, 2016.
- “Bad Gifts: How Theravada Monks Deal with Inappropriate Dana and the Consequences for Discipline,” The Ethics of Religious Giving in Asia, Asian Research Institute, National University of Singapore. October 9-10, 2014.

### **Fellowships, Grants and Honors**

- REACH Grant (UVM) 2019-20, to conduct research on Islamophobia among Thai monks.
- Lattie Coor Faculty Collaboration Grant, supporting speaker series, “Religion and Law,” UVM Fall 2018
- Foundational Writing and Information Literacy Fellowship for Critical Reading, UVM, 2017-18
- Joan Smith Faculty Research Support Award, CAS, University of Vermont, 2017-2018

Lattie Coor Faculty Collaboration Grant, supporting conference, “Buddhism Humanities and Ethnographic Methods,” University of Vermont, April 29-30, 2016.  
Fulbright Senior Fellowship (Thailand), 2013-14.  
Blakemore Foundation Language Refresher Grant 2013 – Advanced Study in Thai, Chiang Mai University, June-August, 2013.  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies-Buddhist Lodge Fellowship, focused on Buddhist Networks in Asia, Spring 2010.  
Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, 2003-2004.

## **Service**

### ***University of Vermont***

Faculty Senate:

Senator (Spring 2008; 2015-2022); Member Executive Council (Spring 2016; 2019-21)

College of Arts and Sciences:

Committee Member, CAS Academic Planning and Budgets 2008-2009, 2015-2018.

Committee Member, Ad hoc First-Year Experience Committee, Spring 2016, 2016-17

Interim Chair, Department of Religion 2018-2019.

Director, Asian Studies Program, Spring 2012, 2016-2020

### ***Academic Community***

Member, AAR Buddhism Section Steering Committee, 2012-2017.

Southeast Asian Buddhism Book Review Editor, H-Buddhism, 2009 to present.

Thai Lao Cambodian Studies Group, Association for Asian Studies, Executive Council member, 2018-21, 2011-2014; Graduate Student Board Representative, 2003-2005.

### ***Conferences Organized***

Organizer, New England regional meeting, Association for Asian Studies, October 17, 2020, University of Vermont.

Conference Committee, “Theravāda Civilizations and Cultures,” Pre-AAS Conference, Washington, DC, March 22, 2018.

Conference Organizer, “Buddhism, the Humanities and Ethnographic Methods,” University of Vermont, April 2016.

Conference Organizer, “Theravada Buddhism under Colonialism,” ISEAS, Singapore, May 24-25, 2010.

### ***Community***

Member, Addison Northwest School Board, March 2016 to present

(Vice Chair, 2017-18; Facilities Committee Chair 2016-2019; Chair Superintendent Screening Committee, 2018).

Expert Witness, Caledonia County District Attorney, September 2018.

Workshop presenter, UVM Asian Studies Outreach, “Religion in Japan,” April 2013, May 2015; “Buddhism in Thailand,” April 2012.

Coach, “Odyssey of the Mind,” Vergennes Union Elementary School, 2011-12; 2012-13.

Public Speaking Facilitator, “Thai Diplomatic Communication Skills” Workshop, Sponsored by the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kanchanaburi, Thailand, March 2010.

### **Languages**

Modern Chinese, Thai and Dai-lue; Pali, Sanskrit, French (Reading)